

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /131 W

----- 125153

R 181639Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7488

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 13472

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XG, GW

SUBJECT: RFE/RL: EUROPEAN FINANCING

REF: (A) STATE 176743; (B) BONN 12956

SUMMARY: FRG FONOFF REP REPORTS QUESTION OF EUROPEAN
FINANCING AND, SPECIFICALLY, OF BUDGETARY SUPPORT, WAS
IN FACT RAISED AT FRG-UK INFORMATION TALKS SEPTEMBER
10-11. BRITISH REPS REPORTEDLY HELD OUT NO HOPE FOR
BUDGETARY SUPPORT. MOREOVER, FRG FONOFF FOR ITS OWN
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PART CONTINUES TO REGARD SUPPORT REQUIRING SPECIFIC

PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL AS VERY DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN
AND MOST UNLIKELY. END SUMMARY

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON FRAU KRUEGER SEPTEMBER 14 FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF EUROPEAN FINANCING IN LIGHT OF FRG-UK INFORMATION TALKS. KRUEGER SAID FRG SPOKESMAN VON WECHMAR, WHO HEADED GERMAN DELEGATION AT BRIGHTON, HAD INDEED RAISED SUBJECT OF RADIOS. ACCORDING TO KRUEGER, BRITISH REACTED BY SAYING THAT SOME FORM OF "MULTIPLE SUBSCRIPTIONS" OFFERED ONLY POSSIBILITY. WHEN VON WECHMAR PUT FORWARD THE THOUGHT THAT EUROPEAN STATES MIGHT HAVE TO PROVIDE SOME BUDGETARY SUPPORT IN ORDER TO MEET US DESIRES, BRITISH REPORTEDLY DEMURRED AND REPEATED THAT THEY SAW NO POSSIBILITY APART FROM INCREASED SUBSCRIPTIONS.

2. FRAU KRUEGER TOLD EMBOFF THAT, SPEAKING FRANKLY, SHE SAW VERY LITTLE CHANCE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD ITSELF BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A BUDGETARY CONTRIBUTION, EVEN THOUGH VON WECHMAR HAD BEEN WILLING TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT WITH THE BRITISH. REVIEWING THE VARIOUS SUGGESTED POSSIBILITIES FOR CHANNELING FUNDS PUT UP BY EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS (E.G. "FOUNDATION FOR THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION"), KRUEGER SAID THE DIFFICULTY LAY NOT SO MUCH IN FINDING SUCH A CHANNEL BUT IN OVERCOMING CERTAIN INHERENT POLITICAL PROBLEMS. IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE, WHATEVER THE CHANNEL USED, TO CONCEAL THE FACT THAT FUNDS WERE INTENDED, EITHER IN PART OR ENTIRELY, FOR THE RADIOS. THIS MEANT THAT A MINORITY OF THE SPD GROUP IN THE BUNDESTAG WOULD INEVITABLY OPPOSE, CREATING A SITUATION IN WHICH THE MAJORITY OF THE SPD WOULD BE VOTING WITH THE CDU/CSU FRACTION AGAINST SOME OF ITS OWN MEMBERS. KRUEGER THOUGHT A SIMILAR SITUATION MIGHT ARISE FOR THE FDP. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, SHE CONSIDERED IT MOST UNLIKELY THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD RISK AN APPROACH REQUIRING PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL.

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 DRC-01 /131 W

----- 125204

R 181639Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7489

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 13472

3. KRUEGER NOTED THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SECRET FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE CHANCELLOR BUT SAID THAT, SO FAR AS SHE IS AWARE, NONE OF THEM IS LARGE ENOUGH TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR FRG FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, EVEN IF THE CHANCELLOR WERE WILLING TO USE THEM FOR THIS PURPOSE. MOREOVER, THERE WAS THE DISADVANTAGE THAT FUNDS FROM THIS SOURCE COULD NOT BE PUBLICIZED AND WOULD THEREFORE NOT BE OF VALUE IN DEMONSTRATING TO THE US CONGRESS THAT A SUBSTANTIAL EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTION HAD BEEN MADE.

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4. COMMENT: NOW THAT WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO THE GERMANS THAT WE DO NOT SEE HOW THE JOB CAN BE DONE OTHERWISE, THERE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE FURTHER DISCUSSION WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR BUDGETARY SUPPORT. IN THE LIGHT OF KRUEGER'S REMARKS, HOWEVER, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE SIGNIFICANT MOVEMENT ON THIS QUESTION. IT OCCURS TO US THAT A MORE PROPITIOUS TIME FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF EUROPEAN FUNDING ON THE SCALE WE SEEK MAY COME IF THE "BASKET THREE" DISCUSSIONS AT GENEVA RUN INTO MAJOR PROBLEMS.

THE DIFFICULTIES WE ARE LIKELY TO ENCOUNTER THERE,
WHEN COMBINED WITH THE EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY BEING GIVEN
TO THE PROBLEMS OF DISSIDENT INTELLECTUALS AND WOULD-BE
EMIGRANTS IN THE SOVIET UNION, MIGHT PROVIDE A PRETTY
FAIR BASIS FOR REEMPHASIZING THE CONTINUING IMPORTANCE
OF THE RADIOS.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN13472
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS HILLENBRAND
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730928/aaaaauoe.tel
Line Count: 176
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 176743; (B) BONN 12956
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RFE/RL: EUROPEAN FINANCING
TAGS: PFOR, XG, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005